



THE LIBRARY LINK

A Quarterly Publication of the Mt. Sterling Public Library
www.mtsterlingpubliclibrary.org

Volume 1, Issue 1

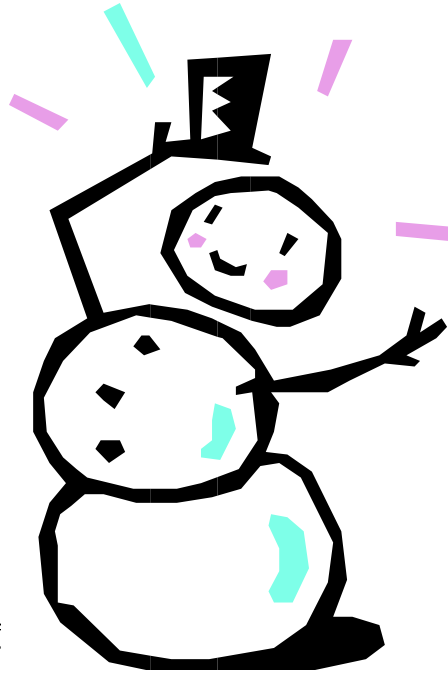
January 2009

The Year in Review

Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of what will hopefully become one of your vital links to the Mt. Sterling Public Library. Bear with us as we explore different avenues of this publication and the various changes that will surely transpire in future editions as we improve upon our methods. It is our intention for this publication to catch you up to speed in all the exciting details of our past year, while also giving you a glimpse into our plans for the upcoming year. We welcome the public's input. Our goal is to be informative while also providing recognition to those who are active or have participated in our programs in a quarterly edition. Eventually, we want this to be available online as well. It is our belief that to have a successful library takes involvement from the community. In lieu of the country's financial crisis which has the obvious trickle-down effect from national to state to county then straight to our dilapidated, we would like to invite the community to get involved and contribute their opinions to help make us even more successful in spite of the budget situation we all are facing. Let us also take this time to remind you of our vast resources of FREE services and materials we can provide you everyday. We look forward to hearing any input from the community on what types of programs you would like to see continue and suggestions on new programs you are interested in us pursuing as well. You may contact us via phone, email, traditional mail, or in person with your comments. If you would like to remain anonymous, that is ok, too. Without the public, there would be no public library in Mt. Sterling. Thank you all for your continued support. We wish you and yours a very happy and successful New Year!

~ Melissa Reece



Welcome Winter!

- *The Mt. Sterling Public Library, founded in 1910*
- *60 W. Columbus St., Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143*
- *Phone: 740-869-2430*
- *Fax: 740-869-3617*
- *Web:*
www.mtsterlingpubliclibrary.org
- *Hours of operation:*
- *Monday and Friday*
10 AM to 5 PM
- *Tuesday and Thursday*
10 AM to 8 PM
- *Saturday*
9 AM to 1 PM
- *Closed Wednesdays*
until further notice
- *Story Time is held every Friday @*
10:30 AM

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From the Directors Chair

As I look back on the year, 2008 was a year of change. This could be considered a good or bad thing, but change was constant. It was the hot word on the political scene. Many people want change, some don't. It is what gives life the variety it needs to proceed. What if we didn't have change? The library would have to burn books because of a rule 90 years ago. A person with a contagious disease had to burn their books instead of having them returned to the library. Thank goodness that rule was changed when we gained the knowledge you can not pass diseases through books!

I am glad for change. It keeps me on my toes. I may not like some changes, but I learn to accept and adjust. The library and it's patron's adjusted to many changes this past year. From levy campaigns, staff, programming and policy changes. These all happened in the year 2008. Some were causes to celebrate. For example, I graduated from Ohio Dominican University; we celebrated with employees on their retirement; we expanded our Summer Reading program to Fairfield and Middway. Other changes in the year made us cringe. Hours were cut; ladies did not pass; we suffered budget cuts. We adapted to the undesirable changes that are not of our control, and hope they're not permanent. Through these hard times the library is still one of the last great government programs that doesn't require lot's of paperwork or have lot's of restrictions on who can use it. If one can follow the basic rules, the unlimited possibilities of knowledge, entertainment, and information is for the taking. And it's all FREE!

So when I say we had a lot of changes in 2008, expect to see more changes in 2009. That is what the library does and what serving its community is all about. Imagine if it didn't change! We will grow with our community and make conscience decisions that will make our environment a better, safer place for all those who utilize it. May you enjoy life's changes! As Alan Cohen said, "It takes a lot of courage to release the familiar and seemingly se-



Staff Changes in 2008

There is an internal joke that is said among the Mt. Sterling Public Library staff; the only way to get a job there is if someone retires or dies. (Thankfully, the latter of those is not a reality for us). This is because working at our Library is a very desirable position because we have created and maintain a pleasant working environment. Hence, once someone has been hired, they usually do not leave until they retire and it is likely the last job you will ever want. We have a great staff here and work very well with each other and the public we serve. That being said however, we have had some staff changes in 2008. The following changes occurred in the year 2008:

Retirement

Linda Eckle with 9 years of service
Patty Woods with 10 years of service
Klaudia Dodge with 7 Years of service

New Hires

-Rebecca Rector was hired to work in our Genealogy Department and is working hand-in-hand with our library and the Mt. Sterling Community Museum.
-Melissa Reece was hired to work as an assistant Librarian and is also working on the library webpage and the newsletter.



Skate on over to the Mt. Sterling Public Library for all your reading and viewing needs!

The Mt. Sterling Public Library is very fortunate to have a group of caring and dedicated citizens within our community who work on our behalf to help us in a variety of ways, both financially and through volunteerism within the library. Currently, the officers are as follows:

President—Linda Clemans
V. Pres.—Barb McMurray
Secretary—Casey o’Neil
Treasurer—Susan Marshall

Besides the officers are several other volunteers within the organization. They work hard doing anything from tasks such as

Please call [740-869-2430](tel:740-869-2430) to join us to support the Library! We can never have too many friends!

Friends of the Library

shelving items for the library, to organizing and running fund-raisers to aid the library with needs our budget would otherwise not allow the luxury of having. Among our dedicated volunteers is Jim Stiverson and Maria Fletcher, who both help in a variety of ways from assisting with story time or shelving hundreds of items. Due to outstanding fundraising this year, the Friends of the Library will

donate a “Cricut” machine as well as 2 new computers to be used by our patrons. Earlier in the year they purchased a “yard bulletin” sign for us. They also sponsored our Summer Reading Program. These items, besides being expenses the library could not otherwise afford due to the state budget issues, will be used frequently and often. We are very grateful to the Friends organization for their generosity. The first meeting of 2009 will be held Tues., Jan. 27 @ 6:30 PM. If you would like to join the Friends of the Library Action Committee, please call the library for more information @ 740-869-2430. The committee needs your assistance.

Due to the ongoing budget constraints with all libraries in Ohio, we are doing our best to be creative in our fundraising efforts alongside the Friends of the Library organization. Our staff has put in many volunteer hours of their own to help accomplish our mutual goals. Two of the larger fundraisers we have worked in conjunction with the Friends of the Library are: Fall Yard Sale, (we are considering having another one in the spring), and our annual Chinese Auction. Both of these require a lot of volunteer hours and materials as well as volunteers themselves to

make them successful. As mentioned earlier, thanks to the generosity of sponsorship and a private donation given to the library this past summer, we were able to provide one of the best Summer Reading programs yet to date. We held the program at the Library on Tuesdays, traveled to the Midway elementary on Wednesdays, Fairfield on Thursdays, and held “picnic in the park” every Friday. We were able to have a magician, music as well as musicians, storytellers and more using a traveling theme each event. Thank you to those who made it

Bpossible. In the meantime, we will continue to be closed on Wednesdays and



A full house for story time was not unusual for Summer Reading 2008

our Page positions are on hold until our budget can be re-implemented to it’s previous numbers. We will remain optimistic and creative in finding new and innovative ways to serve the public and their needs.



Did You Know?

The Mt. Sterling Public Library has a wealth of resources at your fingertips. From our website, you can request materials and books. Is your computer broken, or do you not have internet, you can come in and use ours for free! You can also print your items for a nominal fee of .20 per page. Our fax machine at your disposal to send or receive. Costs are a minimal fee of \$1/per page. We can also provide you with a fax cover sheet if you need one. We have almost an unlimited supply of DVD's and movies. If we do not have it here, we can find it and order it for you to use for free! The same is true for all materials such as magazines, CD's Roms, DVD's, VHS, books on tape or CD, music CD's and of course books themselves. If you are searching for material for research, work or school purposes, we

have a very knowledgeable staff to assist you. The library also offers craft classes, computer training workshops, story time for young children, Summer Reading program for youth and many other events. In 2008 we held a cupcake decorating class, animal, travel, music and magic themed Summer Reading, a board game playoff, flower arrangement class with a professional florist, and a whole host of other classes. We now travel to the Senior Citizens complex here in town once a month to provide those whom may not otherwise be able to come to the library, the opportunity to engage in current topics and take part in crafts. In essence, it is like a

traveling bookmobile. We welcome your ideas as well. In the future we plan to host a lock-in for teens with video games

being played on our big screen and snacks included among other activities. We have meeting space available for use to groups. The Girl Scouts in Mt. Sterling utilize this large space complete with restrooms and a kitchen. It is available for your use also.



Professional Florist *Ralph Ross* gives tips and shows his expertise to the flower-arranging students

Plan ahead with our schedule for 2009

The Mt. Sterling Public Library will observe the following Holiday Schedule and therefore will be closed on the following days in **2009**:

New Years Day— Thursday, January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Monday, January 19

President's Day— Monday, February 16
Memorial Day—Monday, May 25
Independence Day— Saturday, July 4

Patrons can call in and renew their items over the phone @ 740-869-2430 or go online to our web page www.mtsterlingpubliclibrary.org

Labor Day— Monday, September 7
Thanksgiving Day— Thursday, November 26
Day after Thanksgiving— Friday, November 27
Saturday after Thanksgiving—Saturday, November 28
Christmas Eve Day @

noon—Thursday, December 24
Christmas Day—Friday, December 25
*We will also be closed on Friday, February 13, 2009 for an in-service work day.

If you need to renew a book or item prior to one of these dates of closure, please remember you can call ahead and we will gladly renew your item over the phone for your convenience. If your item is due on one of the subsequently closed days, you will not be charged any late fees if you bring it in to renew it the next open day, or as always, you may go online to our website www.mtsterlingpubliclibrary.org to renew your items yourself. While on our website, you can check out the many other features available to you online as well.

Meet the Staff

Director— Heidi Fletcher
Assistant Director— Sharon Morgan
Assistant Librarian—Annette Robison
Assistant Librarian- Jo Newton
Assistant Librarian—Peggy Riley
Assistant Librarian - Carol Warner
Assistant Librarian- Mindi Kell
Assistant Librarian—Melissa Reece
Genealogy Assistant—Rebecca Rector

Mt. Sterling Community Museum Director— Denny Morris
The Mt. Sterling Public Library Board of Directors consists of the following:
President— Paul Morehart
Vice President—Carolyn Tadlock
Fiscal Officer—Vicki Sheets
Secretary—Jeri Endres
Current Board members—Wilson Lehman, Jim Stiverson, Mike Tomlinson

The board meets on the 2nd Thursday every month. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.



Let us come to your rescue!

The Mt. Sterling Public Library

60 W. Columbus St.
Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43413

Phone: 740-869-2430

Fax: 740-869-3617

www.mtsterlingpubliclibrary.org

**Check us out on
the web!!**



Volunteer Jim Stiverson puts away some of the hundreds of videos he has helped shelve over time.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Mount Sterling Public Library will provide the means to make life long learning for all patrons possible; provide for recreational reading, viewing and listening needs; provide patrons with traditional and state of the art technologies to find, evaluate and use information; and to explore and better understand their personal heritage.

(Adopted October 2005)

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*The Mt. Sterling Public Library serves the entire Madison Plains school district, but also provides service to others in our area who live in the surrounding school districts as well. Currently we have over 3,000 patrons and circulate on average over 5,000 items each month. The total collection is around 50,000 items. We also have access to over 150 libraries around the state in our consortium.*

*We accept both monetary and merchandise donations such as current magazines, books on tape, books on CD, CD Rom, paperback, hard cover, fiction, non-fiction, DVD's, music CD's, VHS tapes, etc. All items must be in good shape as we are limited on space and can only keep those items in good enough condition for the public to get multiple uses for as many years as possible. We offer many volunteer opportunities. If you prefer, you can choose to sponsor an activity to curb our costs and help us provide more programming to the community.*

## **We have a "Cricut" in the Library—but no need to call for an exterminator for this kind!**

As you may recall earlier in the newsletter, it was mentioned that one of the several fine gifts provided to us by the Friends of the Library organization this past year is a new "Cricut". No, you are not seeing a typo or misspelled word. It is not supposed to be "cricket". It is Cricut, as in a machine that can provide all kinds of creative details for us to use in such a variety of ways. We will now have specifically a "Cricut Expression". This is a machine that looks similar to a large desktop printer, only it is nothing like that at all. This item is meant to stay on a work table or in a media room. The Cricut Expression is a way to cut letters, shapes, and phrases in impressive sizes using the 12" x 12" mat. The possibilities are endless with this larger machine, allowing you to create bigger die cuts for classroom décor, scrapbook layouts, signage, and so much more. Some of the features will enable us to:

- \* mix and match creative features in the same cut

- \* use the entire library of existing Cricut cartridges
- \* cut in portrait or landscape
- \* Mat sizes 12" x 12" or 12" x 24"
- \* No computer necessary
- \* Change settings such as language and units of measurement
- \* New LCD screen that shows exactly what you're typing for your next cut

The approximate value of this item is \$499.99. We would never be able to purchase this item with our budget. Thanks to the Friends of the Library, we will be able to use this for our scrapbooks, bulletin boards, craft times, story times, marketing, and various other ways to enhance our Library. Working on our bulletin boards will be so much easier and quicker now with such a machine at our disposal. Otherwise, creating new bulletin boards alone can take hours of hard work. Thank you to our "Friends" for your support!

